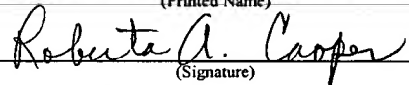


Application Serial No. 09/990,709

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Wilhelm Cramer et al.  
Title: VENT PLUG SYSTEM  
FOR STORAGE  
BATTERIES  
Appl. No.: 09/990,709  
Filing Date: 11/21/2001  
Examiner: Chaudhry, Saeed T.  
Art Unit: 1746  
Confirmation No.: 3903  
Atty. Dkt. No.: 054821-0883

<b>CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
EV 505576133 US	11/19/04
(Express Mail Label Number)	(Date of Deposit)
Roberta A. Cooper	
(Printed Name)	
	
(Signature)	

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Notice of Allowance dated September 13, 2004 concerning the above-referenced patent application.

The Examiner stated the following:

None of the prior art discloses or suggests that the installation fitting consists of two concentrically positioned annular elements.

While the Applicants agree that the allowed claims recite a combination of subject matter that is patentable over the cited references, the Applicants do not necessarily agree with or acquiesce in the statement of reasons for allowance given by the Examiner. Moreover, the Applicants note that the recited subject matter as well as various other subject matter and/or combinations of subject matter may be patentable for other reasons than those given by the Examiner. The Applicants expressly reserve the right to set forth additional and/or alternative

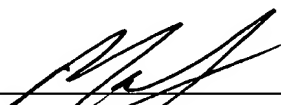
reasons for patentability and/or allowance in connection with the present Application or in any other future proceeding.

**REMARKS**

These Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.104 is intended to be responsive to the Notice of Allowance dated September 13, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 11/19/2004

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
Customer Number: 26371  
Telephone: (414) 297-5564  
Facsimile: (414) 297-4900

Marcus W. Sprow  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 48,580